

ENTRY INTO US NATIONAL PHASE

PCT/GR 00/00018

JC02 Rec'd PCT/PTO 20 MAR 2002

ENTRY INTO THE US NATIONAL PHASE

International Application Number: PCT/GR 00/00018

International Filing Date: 21 April 2000

Priority Date Claimed: 22 April 1999

Title: FLEXIBLE DRINKING STRAW

Appn Number:

Appn Filed:

Examiner/GAU:

Date: October 09, 2001

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE,
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, District of Columbia 20231

GENERAL

- I enclose the first page data of the PCT application.
- The Certified Priority Documents must be transmitted by the International Bureau.

PAYMENT OF THE NATIONAL FEE

ENTRY INTO THE US NATIONAL PHASE

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I enclose a copy of the receipt of wire transfer through CITIBANK, for \$ 500 - nr. 3012630276 – September 20, 2001. I informed about it the Financial Accounting Division (Mr. Thomas Hellmer – Director) by fax and e-mail dated September 21, 2001.

From October 01, 2001 the Basic National Fee has been increased by \$ 15 (from \$ 430 to \$ 445). I enclose this sum (\$ 15) in cash to secure that I have paid the proper amount.

DOCUMENTS FOR THE US GRANT PROCEDURE

The basis for the procedure is the documents on which the International Preliminary Examination Report is based as they are amended now.

COMMENTS ON THE IPER

I. SECTION III.1 – Independent Claim 1.

I amend Independent Claim 1 according to Examiner's instructions.

- The "... are not deformed ..." is replaced by "... have not been deformed ...".
- The "... in order to achieve ..." is replaced by "... in order that we achieve ...".

II. SECTION III.2 – Document US-A-4,036,392 (Marvin Martin).

The straw in the above document consists of 2 corrugated zones. Each zone has 11 corrugations. The corrugations are not re-entrant overlapping folds (annular bellows folds). Please, see Document GB-A-1,219,595.

FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

The basis for the amendments is the documents on which the International Preliminary Examination Report is based.

Changes in the Claims

All Claims are cancelled and replaced by new claims 3,4.

Remarks

In Independent Claim 1 that has been rewritten as Independent Claim 3:

- The "... are not deformed ..." is replaced by "... have not been deformed ...".
- The "... in order to achieve ..." is replaced by "... in order that we achieve ...".

I submit a copy with the new Claims (1 sheet).

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REQUEST FOR CONSTRUCTIVE ASSISTANCE

As the way of writing an application by the USPTO is quite different than by the EPO I respectfully request the constructive assistance and suggestions of the Examiner pursuant to M.P.E.P. § 2173.02 and § 707.07(j) in order that I can place this application in allowable condition.

Very respectfully,



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Applicant Pro Se

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PCT/GR 00/00018

FAX

8 pages in all

Athens, 20 March 2002

OIPE Customer Service Center,
U. S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re: My fax and letter to Assistant Commissioner for Patents – Box
PCT (Dated: 14 December 2001).

Dear Sirs/Mesdames,

I want you please to check your records for my International Patent Application PCT/GR 00/00018 – 21 April 2000 titled "FLEXIBLE DRINKING STRAW" that has already entered the US National Stage under Chapter II at October 15, 2001 but I have received neither the stamped postcard nor the Official Filing Receipt.

- The PTO did receive the papers (that I sent at 09 October 2001 by an Express Registered Letter) at October 15, 2001. I attach the Mail Receipt stamped by the PTO.

I attach also,

- The original transmittal letter
- The receipt of payment for US \$ 500. I have paid the National Fee by Wire Transfer.

However, I really understand your difficulties through that period. So, it is very easy for me to send to PTO again the papers.

With best regards,

A. C. Fotopoulos
ANASTASIOS G. FOTOPOULOS
The Inventor - Applicant

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PCT/GR 00/18

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P.S. I am a Pro Se applicant but I am going to appoint a patent agent to transact the examination procedure.

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